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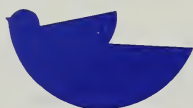
TRAVELERS' TIPS

ON BRINGING FOOD, PLANT, AND
ANIMAL PRODUCTS INTO THE
UNITED STATES

JUL 18 '78

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Cap. 3

PROCUREMENT SECTION
CURRENT SERIAL RECORDS



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A Special Message for Travelers

A few minutes to become familiar with restrictions on bringing back agricultural items can save you time and money. It is illegal to bring many types of meats, fruits, vegetables, plants, animals, and plant and animal products into the United States without approval from the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

These restrictions are intended to protect the plant and animal life of this country. Agricultural items can harbor foreign insects and diseases that could cause severe damage to U.S. crops, forests, gardens, and livestock.

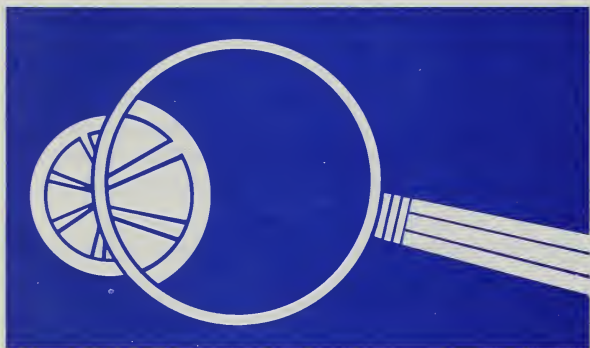
We ask your cooperation in bringing into the United States only those agricultural items that are approved for entry.

AGRICULTURAL INSPECTION

Foods and plant and animal products from foreign countries are inspected at U.S. ports of entry by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

Travelers often think that quarantine restrictions are aimed only at commercial importers. This is not true. Restrictions apply to anyone who brings or mails agricultural items to this country. Personal luggage and "carry-on" baggage are major channels for the international spread of agricultural pests and diseases.

Inspectors of USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) determine if agricultural items are



free from pests and diseases or pose a pest risk to this country. Small quantities of admissible agricultural items are usually released without expense or undue delay to the traveler.

Materials requiring extensive inspection, testing, or treatment often are held until they can be certified free of pests. Some items may be refused entry.

If there is evidence or a high likelihood that agricultural items carry pests or diseases, the items are not permitted entry. APHIS inspectors take them for destruction without reimbursement.

EVEN ONE CAN HURT

Some travelers with one or two fruits or sausages in their luggage, or a pet bird in a cage, are amazed that "just one" can be a problem. In fact, even one can hurt.

One piece of fruit, one piece of sausage, or one pet bird could be the means of accidentally introducing destructive pests or diseases into this Nation. In 1971, an imported, diseased parrot was responsible for an outbreak of exotic Newcastle disease in U.S. poultry. Nearly 12 million exposed chickens were destroyed to control the deadly virus. Commercial poultrymen received over \$26 million in indemnities.

Plant and animal pests and diseases cost Americans

over \$12 billion annually. Many of our most destructive pests are foreigners that cause greater damage in the United States than in their native environment, where natural enemies may hold them in check.

CLEARING U.S. CUSTOMS

You must declare, on a U.S. customs declaration form, all food, plant, and animal products you acquired abroad, before your arrival in the United States. Undeclared items subject you to a fine. Declaration forms are given to travelers on airplanes, ships, and trains. When you pass through customs inspection, the agent may call in an APHIS agricultural inspector to check if your agricultural items can be brought in safely.

SMUGGLING

Smuggling of food, plant, and animal products into the United States is a Federal offense. Persons found guilty of such smuggling are subject to a fine and/or imprisonment.

IF YOU VISIT A FARM OVERSEAS

The U.S. customs declaration form also asks you to declare if you visited a farm or ranch in a foreign country. Unknowingly, you may have picked up a livestock disease on your shoes or clothes.

Highly contagious livestock diseases, such as African swine fever and foot-and-mouth disease, are prevalent in many foreign countries. These diseases do not affect humans but will debilitate or kill animals.

When you pass through inspection, an agricultural inspector will determine how to minimize any disease risk. These precautions help keep foreign livestock diseases from infecting animals here.



OBTAINING PERMITS

A written permit is required before restricted items may be brought into the United States. Look in the separate sections below for instructions for importing animals and birds, plants, and plant materials. Only residents of the United States may apply for permits, but they may do so on behalf of foreign visitors who intend to bring in restricted items.

LIVE ANIMALS AND BIRDS

The U.S. Department of Agriculture restricts the entry of pet birds and many other live animals, poultry, and other birds (and hatching eggs). Some animals are prohibited; others must be held in USDA animal import centers or by the owner for 30 to 60 days after entry. For all animal-related information and permits, write: Veterinary Services, USDA-APHIS, Federal Building, Hyattsville, MD 20782.

Travelers can arrange to bring in one or two pet birds (but no more), provided the birds were in the owner's possession for 90 days before entry. In the future, more stringent requirements for pet birds are likely—such as a 30-day quarantine in an import station at the owner's expense. This is similar to the procedures now followed for commercial bird imports. So, it is best not to buy pet birds overseas or take any out of the country for later return to the United States.

Animals and birds must be inspected by APHIS veterinarians before they may enter the country. Make advance arrangements because this inspection service is available only at certain ports. In addition, the U.S. Public Health Service restricts imports of dogs, cats, monkeys, and birds (see p. 17).



MEAT, HUNTING TROPHIES, AND OTHER ANIMAL PRODUCTS

USDA also restricts imports of meat, game animal carcasses and hunting trophies, hides, dairy products, and other animal products. Fresh meat is generally prohibited from many countries.



Canned meat is permitted if the inspector can determine that it is commercially canned, hermetically sealed, and storable without refrigeration. Other canned, cured, and dried meat is severely restricted from most countries. For details, contact an APHIS field office (see list on pages 15 and 16).

PLANT MATERIALS

A USDA permit is required before certain plant materials can be brought into the United States. These include fruits, vegetables, and plants or plant parts intended for growing. The entry status of various plants is specified in the lists on pages 6 to 14.

To obtain a permit, write: Permit Unit, USDA-APHIS-PPQ, Federal Building, Hyattsville, MD 20782.

MAILING PLANTS HOME

All plant materials you carry with you from overseas are examined at customs inspection on your return to the United States. You may, however, mail restricted materials directly to one of the plant inspection stations listed below. Ask the Permit Unit, address above, for mailing labels when you apply for a permit.

In mailing: (1) Be sure to write your name and home address on a sheet of paper put inside the package. After clearance, your package will be forwarded to you without additional cost. (2) Mark the outside of the package to show its contents. (3) Send the package to: U.S. Department of Agriculture, APHIS, PPQ, using one of the following addresses:

Border Inspection Sta.
Rm. 202
Nogales, AZ 85621

9650 S. La Cienega Blvd.
Bldg. D. North
Inglewood, CA 90301

Agriculture Building,
Rm. 101
Embarcadero at
Mission Street
San Francisco, CA 94105

P.O. Box 43-L
San Ysidro, CA 92070

Miami Inspection Sta.
P.O. Box 592136
Miami, FL 33159

P.O. Box 29757
Honolulu, HI 96820

P.O. Box 20037
Airport Mailing Facility
New Orleans, LA 70140

Plant Importations Office
209 River St.
Hoboken, NJ 07030

John F. Kennedy
International Airport
Plant Inspection Sta.
Cargo Building 80
Jamaica, NY 11430

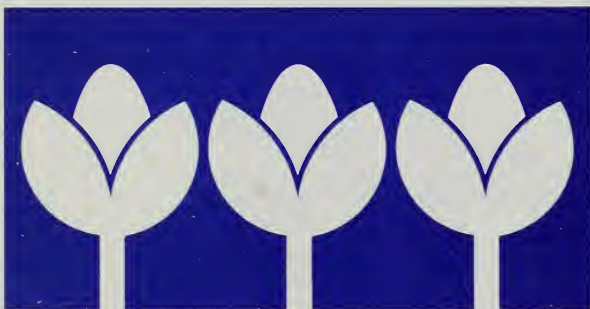
P.O. Box 3386
Old San Juan, PR 00904

P.O. Box 306
Brownsville, TX 78520

Cordova Bridge Sta.
Rm. 172-A
3600 East Paisano
El Paso, TX 79905

P.O. Box 277
Laredo, TX 78040

Federal Office Building
Rm. 9014
Seattle, WA 98104



WHAT YOU CAN BRING HOME

The entry status of agricultural products differs by type of item, intended use, and destination. The lists on the following pages will give you some idea of the entry status of agricultural items commonly brought in by travelers. Many common foods, plants, animals, and plant and animal products available in foreign countries are admitted without restriction other than inspection. Some are prohibited. And a few items are admitted only conditionally under permit.

Any item, however, may be refused entry if the inspector has reason to believe it poses a pest risk under current conditions. Restrictions apply to agricultural items, whether they are carried as baggage or are mailed to the United States from a foreign country.

ENTRY STATUS LISTS

Exceptions — The following list of the entry status of products from most overseas areas does *not* apply to products from Canada, Mexico, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. For this information, see pages 10 to 14.

PROHIBITED	GENERALLY PROHIBITED	RESTRICTED	PERMIT REQUIRED	TREATMENT REQUIRED	ADMITTED	
						Products from Most Overseas Areas
					●	Animal hair, wool or bristles. Must be scoured, dyed, or thoroughly washed.
		●				Animals. Includes live cattle, swine, deer, horses, sheep, mules, burros, goats, dogs used around livestock and zoo animals. Also see: "Live Animals and Birds," p. 3.
					●	Bakery goods. Includes breads, cakes, cookies, and similar items.
					●	Bamboo. Dried poles only. All other parts.
●						Beads and curios. Made of seeds. Made of jequirity beans.
●						Berries (fresh). See: "Plant Materials," p. 4.
	●					Birds. See: "Live Animals and Birds," p. 3.
	●					Bonsai trees. See: "Plants," p. 9.
					●	Candies.
					●	Cheeses (fully cured).
				●		Chestnuts.
				●		Christmas greens and foliage. Fresh or dried. Pine branches.
●						Citrus peels (fresh or dried). From most countries.
●					●	Coconuts. Without husks. With husks — into Hawaii and Florida only.

PROHIBITED	GENERALLY PROHIBITED	RESTRICTED	PERMIT REQUIRED	TREATMENT REQUIRED	ADMITTED
●				●	Coffee beans. Roasted. Unroasted and dried.
●				●	Into most states. Into Hawaii and Puerto Rico.
				●	Coffee berries.
		●		●	Cones of trees.
				●	Corn, and related plants, such as broom-corn, sorghum, and Job's tears. See: "Plant Materials," p. 4.
				●	Corn husks.
		●		●	Cotton. Medicinal (swabs, bandages). Bolls, other plant parts. See: "Plant Materials," p. 4.
●					Dairy products, fresh items from most countries. See also: "Cheeses," p. 6.
●					Disease organisms and vectors. For exceptions for scientific and educational purposes, write: Quarantines, USDA-APHIS-PPQ, Federal Building, Hyattsville, MD. 20782.
				●	Dried foods (polished rice, beans, coffee, tea, shelled nuts).
		●			Eggs (from poultry and other birds). See: "Live Animals and Birds," p. 3.
	●			●	Fish. Canned. Other than canned. See: "Meat, Hunting Trophies, and Other Animal Products," p. 4.
●				●	Flower bulbs. Most types. Anemone bulbs from Germany. Gladiolus bulbs from Africa.
●				●	Flowers. Fresh cut or dried. Fresh camellias and gardenias. Coming into California. Coming into Florida.
●		●			Foliage, for decoration. Fresh cut leaves and branches. Pine, rice, sugarcane, citrus, and wheat foliage.

PROHIBITED	GENERALLY PROHIBITED	RESTRICTED	PERMIT REQUIRED	TREATMENT REQUIRED	ADMITTED
●		●	●		Fruits. Canned or processed. Some fresh fruits. Other fresh fruits. See: "Plant Materials," p. 4.
		●			Game (animals or birds). See: "Meat, Hunting Trophies, and Other Animal Products," p. 4.
●					Hay, straw or grass (from most countries).
●				●	Herbarium materials. Most species. Witchweed (<i>Striga</i> spp.). Illegal drugs (materials under Controlled Substances Act).
●				●	Herbs (for medicine or food).
				●	Hides and skins (fully tanned). See: "Meat, Hunting Trophies, and Other Animal Products," p. 4.
●				●	Insects. Dried and preserved. Live, in any stage of development. For exceptions for scientific and educational purposes, write: Quarantines, USDA-APHIS-PPQ, Federal Building, Hyattsville, MD 20782.
				●	Jams and jellies (canned or processed).
				●	Leather products, including suede.
				●	Lichens.
	●				Meat. See: "Meat, Hunting Trophies, and Other Animal Products," p. 4.
				●	Mexican jumping beans.
				●	Mushrooms.
●			●	●	Nuts (outer husk must be removed). Most kinds. Chestnuts. Acorns.
	●			●	Packing materials. Peat moss, sphagnum moss, wood shavings, sawdust, paper, and excelsior. Most other plant and animal materials.
	●				Pets (dogs, cats, monkeys, birds). See: "Live Animals and Birds," p. 3.

PROHIBITED	GENERALLY PROHIBITED	RESTRICTED	PERMIT REQUIRED	TREATMENT REQUIRED	ADMITTED
					Plants. Most dried plants, flowers, and leaves for herbarium or decoration. Live plants (shrubs, trees, fresh cuttings intended for growing). Some live plants are prohibited; others require special post-entry growing authorization; contact a USDA office, see pp. 15 and 16. Citrus leaves, rice straw or hulls, sugarcane, and witchweed. All plants in soil.
					Rice straw and hulls.
					Rocks and minerals (cleaned).
					Sauces (canned or processed).
					Scientific materials. For permits to import serums, animal or plant disease organisms, vectors, and specimens of animals or their parts, write: Quarantines, USDA-APHIS-PPQ, Federal Building, Hyattsville, MD 20782.
					Seeds of flowers, shrubs, trees, vegetables, and other plants (most cases). of alfalfa, avocado, bamboo, barberry, corn, cotton, currant, gooseberry, lentil, mahonia, mango, rice, wheat. of coconut coming into Hawaii and Florida. Also see: "Beads and curios."
					Shamrocks (without roots).
					Shells. Snail shells must be empty and thoroughly cleaned.
					Snails. Live snails, including escargots.
					Soil, earth, and sand. Beach sand. Most other kinds.
					Soup and soup mixes. Without meat products. Containing meat or other animal products. See: "Meat, Hunting Trophies, and Other Animal Products," p. 4.
					Spices (dried).

PROHIBITED	GENERALLY PROHIBITED	RESTRICTED	PERMIT REQUIRED	TREATMENT REQUIRED	ADMITTED
●				●	Straw articles. Straw animals, hats, baskets, and other souvenirs. Items stuffed with straw.
		●			Sugarcane. Seed. See: "Plant Materials," p. 4. Cane.
	●				Trophies (animal or bird). See: "Meat, Hunting Trophies, and Other Animal Products," p. 4.
				●	Truffles.
●		●		●	Vegetables. Canned or processed. Some fresh kinds. Other fresh kinds. Also, see: "Plant Materials," p. 4.
	●				Wild animals and birds. See: "Live Animals and Birds," p. 3. and endangered species restrictions, p. 16.
				●	Wooden articles — all types, if pest-free.
				●	Woolen goods (clothing, blankets, etc.).
Products from Canada					
	●				Birds. May be brought only through designated border stations or, under special permit, through other points of entry. See: "Live Animals and Birds," p. 3.
●				●	Fruits. Most kinds. Black currants.
				●	Meats and dressed poultry (most kinds).
	●	●			Plants. Must be certified by the Canadian Department of Agriculture. To take plants from one U.S. city to another by way of Canada, a U.S. certificate is required, in advance. Contact a USDA office listed on pp. 15 and 16.
●				●	Vegetables. Most kinds. Sweetpotatoes. Fresh corn on cob and potatoes from certain provinces.
●					

PROHIBITED	GENERALLY PROHIBITED	RESTRICTED	PERMIT REQUIRED	TREATMENT REQUIRED	ADMITTED
					Products from Mexico
			●		Acorns.
		●			Birds. See: "Live Animals and Birds," p. 3.
			●		Coconuts. Into most states. Into Florida and Hawaii.
●					Fruits.
			●		Bananas, blackberries, cactus fruits, cerimans, dates, dewberries, grapes, lemons, sour limes, litchis, melons, papayas, pineapples, and strawberries.
					Avocados.
●			●		Without seeds—into most states. Into California, Florida, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, U.S. Virgin Islands.
●					Other fruits.
			●		Meats. Most kinds. Pork, pork products, and poultry.
●					● Mexican jumping beans.
			●		● Nuts.
		●			Plants. See: "Plants," general list, p. 9.
			●		● Tamarind bean pods.
			●		Vegetables. Most kinds. Potatoes, sweetpotatoes, yams.
●					

Note to Travelers to Canada and Mexico

Pet birds and fruits, vegetables, plants, and other agricultural products brought from the United States into Canada or Mexico may not be allowed back into the United States. If you visit these neighboring countries, or travel from one U.S. city to another by way of these neighboring countries, check with the U.S. border inspector before crossing. To obtain permits or certificates in advance, write to one of the addresses on pages 15 and 16.

PROHIBITED	GENERALLY PROHIBITED	RESTRICTED	PERMIT REQUIRED	TREATMENT REQUIRED	ADMITTED
●					Products from Hawaii
					Berries, including coffeeberries.
				●	Coconuts.
					Into most states.
					Into Florida.
				●	Coffee.
					Coffee beans, roasted.
					Coffee berries.
					Cotton and cotton bolls.
					Flowers.
				●	Dried flowers and foliage.
				●	Fresh cut flowers, leis, and foliage (most kinds).
					Fresh cut mauna loas, gardenias, jade vines, and roses.
					Fruits.
				●	Pineapples.
			●		Avocados, bananas, litchis, and papayas (treat before transporting).
					Other fruits.
				●	Insects.
					Dried and preserved.
					Live (in any stage of development).
					For exceptions for scientific and educational purposes, write:
					Quarantines, USDA-APHIS-PPQ,
					Federal Building, Hyattsville, MD 20782.
		●			Plants.
					Plants without soil, and cuttings.
					Must be certified pest-free by Hawaii State Department of Agriculture. For arrangements on plants not already certified, call 548-7175 in Honolulu; 935-1049 in Hilo; 245-6192 in Kauai; and 877-7801 in Maui.
					Plants in soil.
					Cactus, roses, citrus plants.
				●	Seeds.
				●	Seed leis and seed jewelry.
					Dried seeds (most kinds).
				●	Shells.
					For restrictions, see "Shells," general list, p. 9.
●					Snails.

PROHIBITED	GENERALLY PROHIBITED	RESTRICTED	PERMIT REQUIRED	TREATMENT REQUIRED	ADMITTED
●	●		●		Soil, earth, and sand. Beach sand. Most other kinds.
			●		Sugarcane. Wood roses.
Products from Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands					
		●	●		Banana leaves.
					Birds. See: "Live Animals and Birds," p. 3.
			●		Breadnuts.
			●		Cacao beans.
			●		Coconuts. Into most states. Into Florida and Hawaii.
●					Coffee berries.
●					Coriander.
●					Cotton and cotton bolls.
			●		Flowers, fresh or dried.
			●		Fruits. Avocados, bananas, breadfruits, papayas, pineapples, plantains, quenepas, and strawberries.
●			●		Citrus fruit. Into Baltimore and points north. Into ports south of Baltimore.
●			●		Mangoes. Treat before transporting. Other fruits.

(List continues on p. 14.)

Predeparture Inspection of Baggage in Hawaii, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands

Hawaii, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands, though politically part of the United States, have certain agricultural pests not present on the mainland. To keep these pests from spreading, USDA inspects the baggage of returning travelers before they board their return transportation. Please cooperate with this necessary task.

PROHIBITED	GENERALLY PROHIBITED	RESTRICTED	PERMIT REQUIRED	TREATMENT REQUIRED	ADMITTED
					● Garlic.
					● Ginger roots.
					● Gourds.
					● Herbs.
					Insects.
●				●	Dried and preserved.
					Live (in any stage of development).
					For exceptions for scientific and educational purposes, write:
					Quarantines, USDA-APHIS-PPQ,
					Federal Building, Hyattsville, MD 20782.
				●	Medicinal plants (dried).
					Plants.
				●	Plants without soil, and cuttings.
					Must be certified pest-free. For arrangements, call Puerto Rico Department of Agriculture at 724-0422 or Virgin Islands Department of Agriculture at 772-0990.
	●		●		Cactus plants and cuttings.
●					Plants in soil.
					Seeds.
●				●	Most dried seeds.
●					Cottonseed.
				●	Shells.
					For restrictions, see "Shells," general list, p. 9.
●					Snails.
					Soil, earth, and sand.
	●			●	Beach sand.
●					Most other kinds.
					Sugarcane.
				●	Tamarind bean pods.
				●	Vegetables.
					Beans (fresh shelled), calabazas,
					chayotes, eggplants, leeks, onions,
					peas, pumpkins, most root crops,
					squash.
●					Sweetpotatoes and most other vegetables.

WHAT ABOUT YOUR CAR?

Cars that were used abroad and still have foreign soil clinging to them must be cleaned at the owner's expense before release at the port of arrival. This restriction does not apply to passenger cars coming from Canada or Mexico.

COMMERCIAL SHIPMENTS

This booklet pertains only to food, plant, and animal products brought into the United States by travelers. For information about commercial shipments of foreign agricultural materials, contact one of the offices listed below, or write: Quarantines, USDA-APHIS-PPQ, Federal Building, Hyattsville, MD 20782.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Specific information is available for travelers visiting Mexico and those wishing to bring back foreign plants. Write USDA-APHIS, Washington, DC 20250 for: *Visiting Mexico* or *Shipping Foreign Plants Home*. For more detailed information, write: Quarantines, USDA-APHIS-PPQ, Federal Building, Hyattsville, MD 20782, or contact the nearest inspection station. Look in the telephone directory under U.S. Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, in the following locations:

Alabama: Mobile

Alaska: Anchorage

Arizona: Nogales, Phoenix, San Luis, Tucson (airport)

Bahamas: Nassau

Bermuda: Hamilton

California: Alameda, Calexico, Fairfield (Travis AFB), Los Angeles (airport), Oakland, San Diego (airport), San Francisco, San Pedro, San Ysidro

Colorado: Denver

Connecticut: Wallingford

Delaware: Dover, Wilmington

Florida: Ft. Lauderdale, Jacksonville, Key West, Miami, Pensacola, Port Canaveral, Riviera Beach, Tampa

Georgia: Atlanta, Savannah

Hawaii: Hilo, Honolulu

Illinois: Chicago

Louisiana: Baton Rouge, New Orleans

Maine: Bangor, Portland

Maryland: Baltimore

Massachusetts: Boston

Michigan: Detroit

Minnesota: Duluth, St. Paul

Mississippi: Gulfport

Missouri: Kansas City, St. Louis

New Jersey: Hoboken, Moorestown, Wrightstown

New York: Buffalo, Jamaica (JFK International Airport), New York, Ogdensburg, Rouses Point

North Carolina: Morehead City, Wilmington
Ohio: Cleveland
Oregon: Astoria, Coos Bay, Portland
Pennsylvania: Philadelphia
Puerto Rico: San Juan
Rhode Island: Warwick
South Carolina: Charleston
Tennessee: Memphis
Texas: Brownsville, Corpus Christi, Dallas, Del Rio, Eagle Pass, El Paso, Galveston, Hidalgo, Houston, Laredo, Port Arthur, Presidio, Progreso, Roma, San Antonio
U.S. Virgin Islands: St. Thomas Island (Charlotte Amalie); St. Croix Island (Christiansted)
Virginia: Chantilly (Dulles International Airport), Newport News, Norfolk
Washington: Blaine, Seattle, Tacoma
Washington, D.C.
Wisconsin: Milwaukee

OTHER FEDERAL REQUIREMENTS

Several Government agencies, in addition to USDA, have requirements affecting overseas travelers. Below is a listing of these additional requirements and ways to get more information about them.

U.S. CUSTOMS SERVICE

Collects import duties (tax) on items acquired abroad and coordinates all inspection of passenger baggage. For information, read: "Customs Hints for Returning U.S. Residents—Know Before You Go." Contact: U.S. Customs Service, P.O. Box 7118, Washington, DC 20044.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Assures that travelers have proper travel documents. For information, read: "Your Trip Abroad." Contact: Passport agencies located in Boston, Chicago, Honolulu, Los Angeles, Miami, New Orleans, New York, Philadelphia, San Francisco, Seattle, and Washington, D.C. Prospective visitors to the United States should contact the nearest U.S. consulate.

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Restricts or prohibits imports of many species of animals and plants, including those considered endangered and threatened. Regulations cover wildlife and game birds plus trophies, hair, leather, eggs, and other parts and products of regulated animals. For information, read: "Facts About Federal Wildlife Laws." Contact: Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington, DC 20240.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Regulates imports of narcotics and other substances under the Controlled Substances Act of 1970. Contact: Drug Enforcement Administration, 1405 Eye St., N.W., Washington, DC 20537.

U.S. PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE

Restricts imports of dogs, cats, monkeys, and pet birds that may affect human health. For information, read: "How to Import Pets But Not Disease." Also advises travelers on how to safeguard their health and well-being while overseas and avoid bringing human diseases to the United States. For information, read, "Health Information for International Travel." Contact: Center for Disease Control, Atlanta, GA 30333.

